



Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2005
Morro Bay South-Central Management Area
*Ocean waters between 36°00' N. latitude (near Lopez Point)
and 34°27' N. latitude (Point Conception)*



| Species | Time Period^{2,3} | Depth Limit² | Daily Bag Limit² | Min. Size Limit^{1,2,4} |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| RCG Complex (including all species of <u>Rockfish</u> , <u>Cabezon</u> and <u>Greenlings</u> as defined in Section 1.91) | <u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: May-Sept. Closed: Jan-April, Oct-Dec. <u>Divers, Shore- based Anglers³</u> : Open year-round | May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 240 ft (40 fm) deep SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE | 10 fish in combination per person; see sub- limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio | See individual species and groups below |
| Canary and Yelloweye Rockfish, Cowcod | CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION | | NO RETENTION (zero) | |
| Bocaccio | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | 1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit | 10" total length |
| Cabezon | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | 1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit | 15" total length |
| Kelp or Rock Greenling | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | 1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit | 12" total length |
| Ocean Whitefish | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | 10 fish per person | none |
| California Sheephead | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | 5 fish per person | 12" total length |
| California Scorpionfish | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | 5 fish per person | 10" total length |
| Lingcod | <u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: May-Sept Closed: Jan-Apr, Oct-Dec <u>Divers, Shore- based Anglers³</u> : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec | Same as RCG Complex, above | 2 fish per person | 24" total length |

continued on following page

| | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|--|
| Other Federal Groundfish ⁵ (see list online at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/groundfish_fedlist.html) | Same as RCG Complex, above | Same as RCG Complex, above | See regulations for individual species | See regulations for individual species |
| Leopard Shark | <u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers</u> ³ : Open all year | Same as RCG Complex, above | 3 fish per person | 36" total length |

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.

3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. Check pg. 59 in the Ocean Sport Fishing regulations booklet or go to the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/measurement.pdf for a measurement illustration.

5. Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, sand sole, and starry flounder are exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish ONLY when taken using the following gear: up to 12 No. 2 (or smaller) hooks and up to 2 lb. of weight.

EXCEPTION: These fish may be possessed in waters deeper than 240 ft. (40 fm) only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water.